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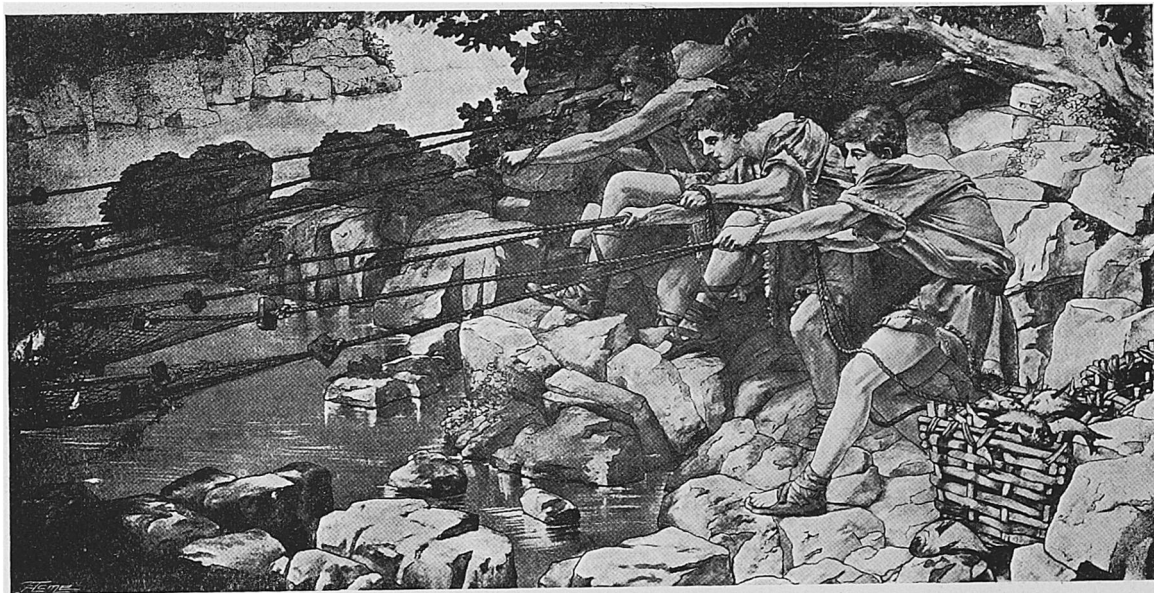
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'FISHING'  
Fresco by C. FORMILLI

## SOME FRESCOES BY CESARE FORMILLI

As you go down Piccadilly, just at the corner of the Green Park, you may notice, if you will, an *al fresco* dinner in full swing, under canvas roofing and among the flowers. It comes upon you as a dream in London ; it brings with it a sense of the sunny South. This is the garden of the Walsingham House Hotel, beyond all question one of the very best hotels in all London. I have brought you here because I want you to go inside and look at the decoration of the dining-room. The idea or general scheme of decoration is quite original and harmonious, even to the smallest details. The columns supporting the whole ceiling of this large room are decorated with bas-reliefs of dancing girls, and the nine frescoes on the ceiling itself are surrounded with very fine modelling. It is evident that every detail of the room forms part of the well-considered scheme of some clever artist. As a matter of fact, it was carried out under his direct supervision. Even the chairs have been especially designed to suit the room. But, no doubt, the most important part of this work are

the frescoes on the walls ; four of which are here reproduced. They are painted on the wall with great power and originality, both of idea and treatment, and few modern frescoes—certainly none in a hotel—rival them in interest. C. Formilli, the artist who was entrusted with all this work, has bestowed upon them the best of his very considerable talent. He has only been five years in England, and yet, besides having carried out several decoration works, has regularly exhibited in the Academy and the New Gallery. This year the *Closing of the Links* and *Age Decked with Nature's Jewels* at the Royal Academy, and *The Fisherman's Possessions*, at the New Gallery, have attracted much attention. This design for the Walsingham House decoration was exhibited last year at the Royal Academy and this year at the Paris Salon, with others of his works. As the four examples we are able to give will show, these Walsingham House frescoes represent, with life-sized figures, hunting and fishing scenes from the sports of Early Britain. They are well worth going to see, and Lord Walsingham and his very



*PREPARATION FOR THE SPORTS*  
Fresco by C. FORMILLI

able manager, Mr. G. Gelardi, ought to be indeed congratulated upon having emerged from the ordinary decorative routine. Instead of putting this important work in the hands of the ordinary decorator, they have had the enterprise and good

judgment to employ the services of a first-rate artist. It is a pity the rubbish one commonly finds, even in otherwise magnificent hotels, cannot be improved in the same way in the direction of true artistic feeling and expression.



*'THE CHASE'*  
Fresco by C. FORMILLI



*'THE RETURN FROM THE CHASE'  
FRESCO BY C. FORMILLI*